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Utility Patent Application Transmittal		First Named Inventor or Application Identifier			
(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b)		Hee Young YUN, et al.			
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Specification	1 - Total Pages 19	8	8.	Assignment Pape	rs (cover sheet & document(s))  LG LCD, Inc. (in grandparent
Drawing(s) (	(35 USC 113) - Total Sheets	7			08/888,164, filed July 3, 1997)
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ADDRESS	10100 Santa Monica Boulevard				
OTEN Y	Suite 2200				
CITY	Los Angeles	State		ifornia	Zip Code 90067-4164
COUNTRY	United States of America	Telephone No	(20	2) 223-5700	Facsimile No. (202) 721-4228

Total Claims (37 CFR 1.16(a)) 7 - 20 0 X \$18.00 \$0.0  Independent Claims** (37 CFR 1.16(b)) 4 - 3 0 X \$78.00 \$78.0  Multiple Dependent Claims (if applicable) (37 CFR 1.16(d)) X \$260.00 \$0.0  BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a)) \$760.00  Total of Above Calculations Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (37 CFR 1.9.1.27, 1.28)  Total Filing Fee Due \$838.00  Assignment Recordation Fee \$0.00		CLAIMS (1974)	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	CALCULATIONS
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June 7, 1999

DATE

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Art Unit: **TBA** 

Hee Young YUN, et al.

Examiner: **TBA** 

Application No: Not Assigned

Filed:

June 7, 1999

For:

**Computer Having Liquid Crystal** 

**Display Between Frames Attached** 

at the Edges

### **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Asst. Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to issuance of a first Office Action after the filing of a Rule 1.52(b) continuation application, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

### **IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please AMEND the specification as follows:

Page 2, line 19, after "sheet" (second occurrence), insert --diffuser--.

### **IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please CANCEL Claims 2-14 without prejudice.

Please **ADD** new Claims 15-20 as follows:

- 15. (NEW) A liquid crystal display device mountable to a housing comprising:
- a liquid crystal panel with a display area and a first plurality of side edges;
- a support frame having a second plurality of side edges and supporting the liquid crystal panel, at least one side edge of the second plurality of side edges including first and second mounting holes, the first mounting hole being located at a top half of the side edge of the support

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frame and the second mounting hole being located at a bottom half of the side edge of the support frame;

wherein the support frame is immovably mounted to the housing simultaneously using the first and second mounting holes at the side edge of the support frame.

- 16. (NEW)The liquid crystal display device according to claim 15, wherein at lesat one of the first and second mounting holes has a threaded inner surface for receiving a screw.
  - 17. (NEW)A portable computer comprising:

a liquid crystal display model having a display surface, back surface and a plurality of side edges

an upper casing substantially covering the back surface of the liquid crystal display module;

a lower casing coupled to the upper casing and having an input device;

wherein at least one side edge of the plurality of side edges including first and second mounting holes, the first mounting hole being located at a top half of the side edge of the liquid crystal display module and the second mounting hole being located at a bottom half of the side edge of the liquid crystal display module;

wherein the liquid crystal display module is immovably mounted to the upper casing using the first and second mount holes at the side edge of the liquid crystal display module.

- 18. (NEW) The portable computer according to claim 17, wherein at least one of the first and second mounting holes has a threaded inner surface for receiving a screw.
  - 19. (NEW)A portable computer comprising:

a liquid crystal display module having a display surface, back surface and a plurality of side edges;

an upper casing substantially covering the back surface of the liquid crystal display module;

an upper casing substantially covering the back surface of the liquid crystal display module;

a lower casing coupled to the upper casing and having an input device;

wherein at least one side edge of the plurality of side edges including first and second mounting holes, the first mounting hole being located at a top half of the side edge of the liquid crystal display module and the second mounting hole being located at a bottom half of the side edge of the liquid crystal display module;

wherein the first and second mounting holes at the side edge of the liquid crystal display module are engaged to immovably couple the liquid crystal display module to the upper casing.

20. (NEW) The portable computer according to claim 19, wherein at least one of the first and second mounting holes has a threaded inner surface for receiving a screw.

### **REMARKS**

Claims 2-14 are cancelled. New claims 15-20 are added. Examination and consideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached at 202-223-5700All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 12-1820.

Respectfully submitted, LOEB & LOEB LLP

By:

Song K. Jung

Registration No. 35,210 Attorney for Applicant(s)

Date: June 7, 1999

Loeb & Loeb LLP 10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 22nd Floor Los Angeles, California 90067-4164

Telephone: (310) 282-2000 Facsimile: (310) 282-2192

## UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

OF

HEE YOUNG YUN,

KYO HUN MOON,

AND

BYEONG YUN LEE

FOR

COMPUTER HAVING LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY

This application claims the benefit of Korean Application No. 12899/1997 filed on April 8, 1997, and Korean Application No. 14278/1997 filed on April 17, 1997, which are hereby incorporated by reference.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

### Field of the Invention

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The present invention relates to a computer, and more particularly, to a display un:

Discussion of the Related Art particularly, to a display unit of a portable computer.

The man start is the start of t In general, a liquid crystal display(LCD) device used for a computer such as a portable computer or for a portable display is shown in Fig. 1. Referring to Fig. 1, the LCD device includes a liquid crystal panel 20, a back light unit, and a driving circuit The back light unit is comprised of a luminescent lamp 11, a lamp housing 12 having a U-shape and surrounding the lamp 11, a light guide 13, a reflector 14 reflecting the incident light from the horizontal direction to the vertical direction, a protection sheet 15 contacting the light guide 13, a first prism sheet 16 and a second prism sheet 17 set on the protecting sheet 15 condensing the incident light from the light guide 13 to some

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Fig. 3 shows a cross-sectional view of the light-guiding plate 13 showing a gradual thickness decrease in cross-section as it extends away from the light source 11. A fluorescent lamp 11 as the light source is fixed at a thicker end of the light-guiding plate 13. When the fluorescent lamp 11 is turned on, the light 23 from the source 11 is reflected by the lamp housing 12 surrounding the fluorescent lamp 11. The reflected light transmits through the cross-section towards the other side (thinner end) of the lightguiding plate 13 as indicated by the arrows. Then, the light spreads all over the surface of the light-guiding plate 13 and reaches the display area 21 (Fig. 1) through the diffusion plate At the same time, a thin film transistor formed on the liquid crystal panel controls a corresponding pixel according to the signals from the driving circuit 30 (Fig. 1) to selectively . transmit the light which collectively realizes the display of

The liquid crystal display is usually combined with, for example, a notebook computer as an output screen. The following

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images on the display area.

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method is used to fix the liquid crystal display to a device such as a notebook computer.

Referring to Figs. 3a and 3b, in a conventional liquid crystal display, a ground supporting plate 30 is disposed on the first fastening frame 19. A mounting hole 33 is formed through the ground supporting plate 30 and the first fastening frame 19, as shown in Fig. 3b. Then, the ground supporting plate 30 and the first fastening frame 19 are fixed by a screw 31 as shown in Fig. 3a. In other words, a liquid crystal display is fixed to a device such as a notebook computer so as to fasten the first fastening

such as a notebook computer so as to fasten the first fastening frame 19 and the ground supporting plate 30 by a fastening element such as a screw.

However, the liquid crystal display becomes thicker due to the length of the screw according to the method as shown in Figs. 3a and 3b. Moreover, since the mounting hole 33 for the screw is formed on the front surface of the liquid crystal display, the display area of the liquid crystal display becomes narrow.

According to the structure described above, the LCD device operates as follows. The light from the luminescent lamp 11 is incident on the rear surface of the liquid crystal panel 20 through the back light unit. A control circuit placed on the driving circuit board 30 controls the incident light on the viewing area 21

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of the liquid crystal panel 20 to display images and characters.

Fig. 4 is a drawing showing a plan view of the final assembly structure of the conventional liquid crystal display device. Fig. 4 also shows the assembled result of a second support frame 40, liquid crystal panel 20 and back light unit having an assembly structure for mounting to a portable computer. The second support frame 40 is made of metal or plastic, and holds the liquid crystal panel 20 and the back light unit. Here, the driving circuit board 23 is located behind the rear part of the back light unit connected to the liquid crystal panel 20 with a flexible film (not shown).

Fig. 5 shows the assembly structure of the liquid crystal panel 20 and body 60 of the portable computer in the conventional method. The second support frame 40 is mounted to a rear case 50 of the portable computer using screws 43 through screw holes 41. A front case(not shown) having a blank area adjusted to the viewing area is joined at the rear case 50. That is, the liquid crystal panel 20 is mounted with the rear case 50 by the screws 43 locked in the normal direction of the display surface through the screw holes 41 formed on that surface. Although not shown in the drawings, the front case is mounted on the LCD device, opening the viewing area 21 and covering the other parts.

In general, as the size of the portable computer is designed

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for easy movement, the same goes for an A4 copy sheet, for example. Therefore, the ratio of the viewing area to the whole surface area of the display and the thickness of the display device affect the quality of the portable computer. However, in a conventional portable computer, screw holes 41 are located on edge portions of the display surface in order to join the second support frame 40 to the rear case 50. As the display area has a screw frame area 42 (Fig. 4) for forming the holes 41, the ratio of the area of the LC panel to the viewing area 21 is reduced.

Furthermore, in the conventional portable computer, as the screws 43 are locked to the liquid crystal display device and the rear case 50 in the normal direction of the display surface, the display part is thick enough to form an assembly device 51 for the screws 43, such as screw holes 41. The second support frame 40 is also large enough to have a space for supporting the screw holes 41. Thus, it is difficult to reduce the weight of the portable computer.

Accordingly, a liquid crystal device is needed having a high viewing ratio of the display, low weight, and reduced thickness for a computer, such as a portable computer.

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, the present invention is directed to a computer

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that substantially obviates one or more of the problems due to limitations and disadvantages of the related art.

An object of the present invention is to increase the ratio of the viewing area to the whole area of a computer display.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a thin, light weight display unit.

Additional features and advantages of the invention will be set forth in the description which follows, and in part will be apparent from the description, or may be learned by practice of the invention. The objectives and other advantages of the invention will be realized and attained by the structure particularly pointed out in the written description and claims hereof as well as the appended drawings.

To achieve these and other advantages and in accordance with the purpose of the present invention, as embodied and broadly described, a liquid crystal display device comprises a liquid crystal panel including a display area; a light source joined with the liquid crystal panel; a first frame coupled to a surface of the light unit and sides of the liquid crystal panel; a second frame coupled to edges of the liquid crystal panel and sides of the first support frame; an outer casing; and a fastening part joining together the first support frame, the second support frame, and the

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outer casing through the sides of the first support frame, the second support frame, and the outer casing.

In another aspect of the present invention, a portable computer comprises a liquid crystal display device having a display surface and a first plurality of side surfaces; a body having an input device; a cover, coupled to an edge of the body, having a second plurality of side surfaces; and a fastening unit attaching the first plurality of side surfaces of the liquid crystal display device to the second plurality of side surfaces of the cover, the liquid crystal display device being mounted to the cover.

In another aspect of the present invention, a portable computer comprises a liquid crystal display device having a first side surface; a body having an input device; a cover joined with the body and having a second side surface; and a fastening unit joining together the liquid crystal display device and the cover through the first and second side surfaces of the liquid crystal display device and the cover, respectively.

In a further aspect of the present invention a liquid crystal display device comprises a first support frame having a first fastening member at a side surface of the first support frame; a reflector unit adjacent the first support frame; a light source adjacent to the reflector unit; a light guide unit adjacent the

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reflector unit; a protection unit adjacent the light guide unit; a prism unit adjacent the protection unit; a diffuser unit adjacent the prism unit; a liquid crystal panel adjacent the diffuser unit; and a second support frame having a second fastening member at a side surface of the second support frame, wherein the reflector unit, the protection unit, the prism unit, and the diffuser unit, the liquid crystal panel are between the first and second support frame, and the first and second support frame are attached to each other through the first and second fastening members through the side surfaces of the first and second support frames.

It is to be understood that both the foregoing general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory and are intended to provide further explanation of the invention as claimed.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying drawings, which are included to provide a further understanding of the invention and are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification, illustrate embodiments of the invention and together with the description serve to explain the principles of the invention.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective drawing showing the structure of the

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conventional liquid crystal display device;

Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view of a light-guiding plate and a fluorescent lamp;

Fig. 3a is a plan view of a liquid crystal display showing a screw frame of a first fastening frame;

Fig. 3b is a cross-sectional view of a liquid crystal display illustrating a first fastening frame, a lamp housing, and ground support plates fixed together by a screw;

Fig. 4 shows a plan view of the final assembly structure of the liquid crystal panel, support frame, and back light unit in the conventional liquid crystal display device;

Fig. 5 shows an assembly structure of the liquid crystal display device in the conventional portable computer;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view showing the assembly structure of the parts of the back light unit in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 7 is a perspective view the assembly structure of the liquid crystal display device, the rear cover, and the front cover in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 8 is a cross-sectional view of a liquid crystal display according to the present invention illustrating mounting holes at a side of the first fastening frame; and

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Fig. 9 shows an assembly structure of the liquid crystal display device and portable computer in accordance with the present invention.

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Reference will now be made in detail to the preferred embodiments of the present invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

The present invention provides a mounting hole for a fastening element on a side of a liquid crystal display instead of on a front 10 🏚 surface of a liquid crystal display. For example, Fig. 8 shows a first mounting hole 410a formed on a first fastening frame 190. With reference to Fig. 6, the structure of a liquid crystal display according to the present invention will be described in detail.

Referring to Fig. 6, on a first support frame 190 made of plastic, for example, a reflector 140, a light guide 130, a protection sheet 150, a first prism sheet 160, a second prism sheet 170, a diffuser 180, and a liquid crystal panel 300 are stacked sequentially. On the side surface of the first support frame 190, a plurality of first screw holes 410a are formed.

At the edge of the light quide 130, a luminescent lamp 110 and a lamp housing 120 are mounted. The lamp housing 120 has an U-shape and surrounds the luminescent lamp 110.

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Furthermore, as the volume of the frames of the present invention is smaller than that of conventional ones, the portable computer of the present invention is lighter. Additionally, as it is not necessary to have screws, the cost for manufacturing can be reduced.

It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various modifications and variations can be made in the computer having liquid crystal display of the present invention without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention. Thus, it is intended that the present invention cover the modifications and variations of this invention provided they come within the scope of the appended claims and their equivalents.

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In order to join the first support frame 190, the liquid crystal panel 300, and the lamp housing 120, a second support frame 400 preferably made of metal is mounted at the side surface of the first support frame 190. At the side surface of the second support frame 400, a plurality of second screw holes 410b aligned with the first screw holes 410a are formed.

Referring to Fig 7, a liquid crystal display device 700 comprising the first support frame 190, the second support frame 400, and the liquid crystal panel 300 is joined with a rear case 500 and a front case 520. At the side surface of the rear case 500, third screw holes 410c aligned with second screw holes 410b are formed. The rear case 500 and the liquid crystal display device 700 are joined to each other by fastening devices such as screws 430, which are locked to the second and third screw holes 410b and 410c. Although not shown in the drawings, the screws 430 are also locked with the first screw holes 410a.

In another embodiment, in order to join the second support frame 400 and the rear case 500, an adhesive device such as double-sided adhesive tape can be used instead of the second and the third screw holes 410b and 410c. This example has an added advantage in that screws needed which makes no are the manufacturing method easy.

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In a further embodiment, the rear case 500 and the second support frame 400 are jointed to each other using hooks and/or other suitable fastening devices including adhesives formed at inner sides of the rear case 500. This embodiment also does not need fastening devices such as screws 430.

Accordingly, in the present invention, the assembling or fastening devices are located at the side surface of the display and not at the front or back side. The assembling devices are preferably screws, hooks or, adhesive materials, for example. The direction of the assembling devices is normal to the side surface of the display, that is, parallel direction with the front (viewing) surface of the display. Moreover, the assembling devices may be formed on the upper and lower sides of the display.

Referring to Fig. 9, the liquid crystal display is mounted to the portable computer. One of the advantages of the portable computer according to the present invention over the conventional portable computer is the higher ratio of the viewing area. Because there are no fastening elements on the display surface, the outer frame of the display area of the present invention is narrower than that of conventional ones. Thus, the ratio of the viewing area can be maximized and the thickness of the display part is made thinner than that of conventional ones.

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### What is claimed is

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- 1. A liquid crystal display device comprising:
  - a liquid crystal panel including a display area;
  - a light source joined with the liquid crystal panel;
- a first frame coupled to a surface of the light unit and sides of the liquid crystal panel;
- a second frame coupled to edges of the liquid crystal panel and sides of the first support frame;

an outer casing; and

- a fastening part joining together the first support frame, the second support frame, and the outer casing through the sides of the first support frame, the second support frame, and the outer casing.
  - The liquid crystal device according to claim 1, wherein the fastening part includes a screw hole.
  - The liquid crystal device according to claim 1, wherein the sides of the first support frame, the second support frame, and the outer casing are substantially perpendicular to the viewing direction of the display device.

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- 4. The liquid crystal device according to claim 1, wherein the first frame supports the light source.
- 5. The liquid crystal device according to claim 1, wherein the second frame protects the liquid crystal panel.
  - 6. A portable computer comprising:

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- a liquid crystal display device having a display surface and a first plurality of side surfaces;
  - a body having an input device;
- a cover, coupled to an edge of the body, having a second plurality of side surfaces; and
- a fastening unit attaching the first plurality of side surfaces of the liquid crystal display device to the second plurality of side surfaces of the cover, the liquid crystal display device being mounted to the cover.
- 7. The portable computer according to claim 6, wherein the . fastening unit includes a screw hole through the first and second side surfaces of the liquid crystal display device and cover, respectively, and a screw in the screw hole.

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- 8. The portable computer according to claim 6, wherein the fastening unit incudes an adhesive joining the first plurality of side surfaces of the liquid crystal display device to the second plurality of side surfaces of the cover.
  - 9. A portable computer comprising:
- a liquid crystal display device having a first side surface;
  - a body having an input device;
- a cover joined with the body and having a second side surface; and
- a fastening unit joining together the liquid crystal display device and the cover through the first and second side surfaces of the liquid crystal display device and the cover, respectively.
  - 10. A liquid crystal display device comprising:
- a first support frame having a first fastening member at a side surface of the first support frame;
  - a reflector unit adjacent the first support frame;
  - a light source adjacent to the reflector unit;
  - a light guide unit adjacent the reflector unit;

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- a protection unit adjacent the light guide unit;
- a prism unit adjacent the protection unit;
- a diffuser unit adjacent the prism unit;
- a liquid crystal panel adjacent the diffuser unit; and
- a second support frame having a second fastening member at a side surface of the second support frame, wherein the reflector unit, the protection unit, the prism unit, and the diffuser unit, the liquid crystal panel are between the first and second support frame, and the first and second support frame are attached to each other through the first and second fastening members through the side surfaces of the first and second support frames.
- 11. The liquid crystal device according to claim 10, wherein the first and second fastening members include a screw hole.
  - 12. The liquid crystal device according to claim 10, wherein the side surfaces of the first and second support frames are substantially perpendicular to the viewing direction of the display device.

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- 13. The liquid crystal device according to claim 10, wherein the first frame supports the light source.
- 14. The liquid crystal device according to claim 10, wherein the second frame protects the liquid crystal panel.

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A liquid crystal display device includes a liquid crystal panel having a display area, a light source joined with the liquid crystal panel, a first frame coupled to a surface of the light unit and sides of the liquid crystal panel, a second frame coupled to edges of the liquid crystal panel and sides of the first support frame, an outer casing, and a fastening part joining together the first support frame, the second support frame, and the outer casing through the sides of the first support frame, the second support frame, the second support

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FIG. 1 PRIOR ART

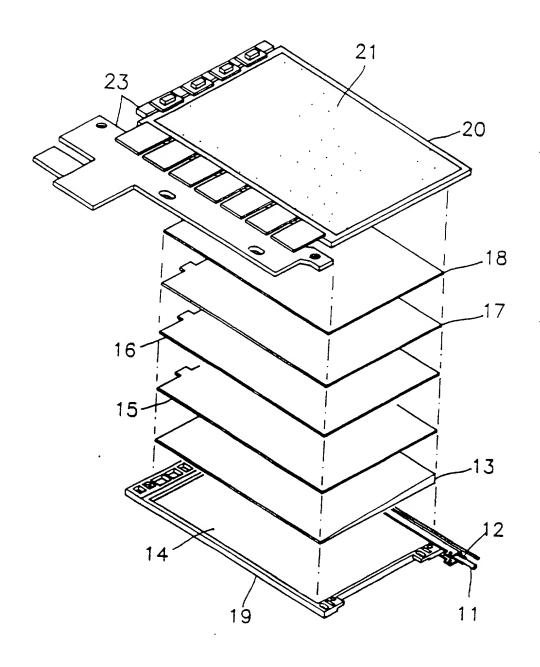


FIG. 2 PRIOR ART

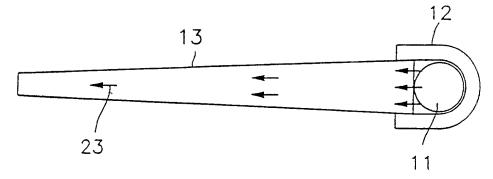


FIG. 3a PRIOR ART

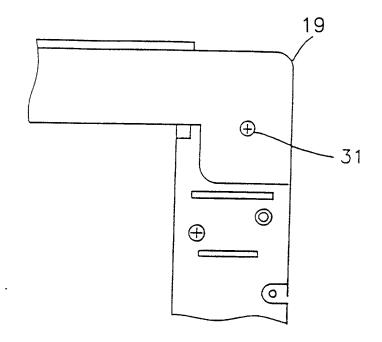


FIG. 3b PRIOR ART

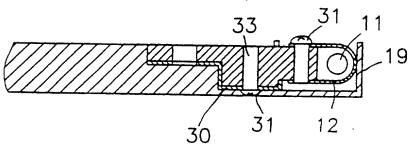


FIG. 4 PRIOR ART

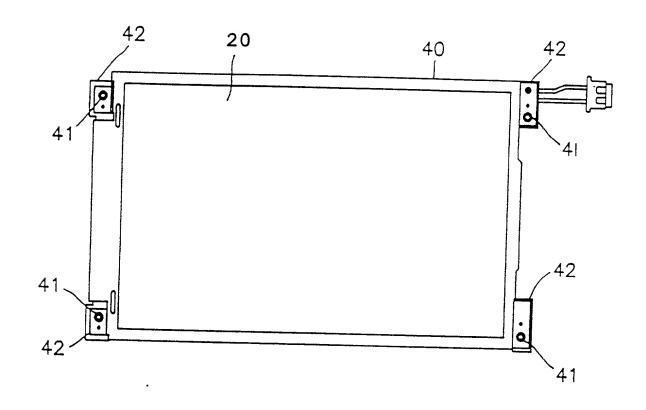


FIG. 5 PRIOR ART

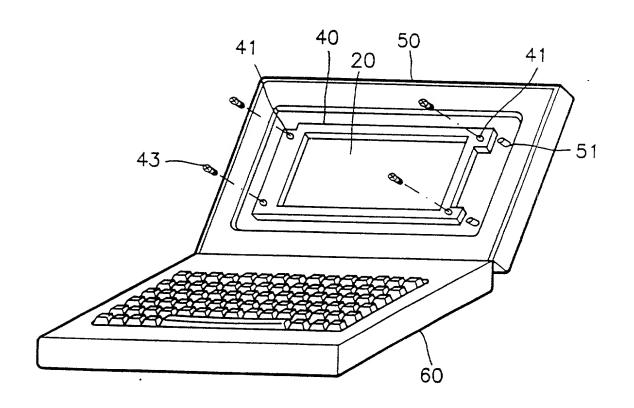


FIG. 6

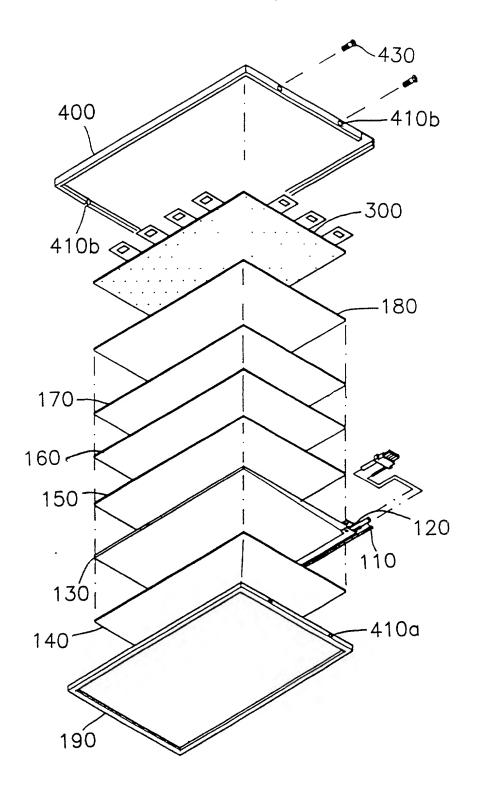


FIG. 7

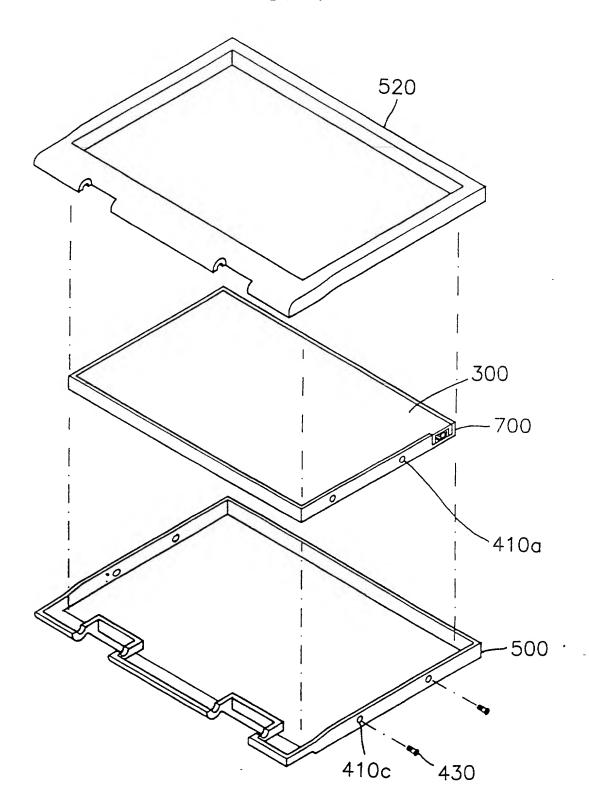


FIG. 8

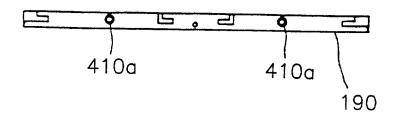
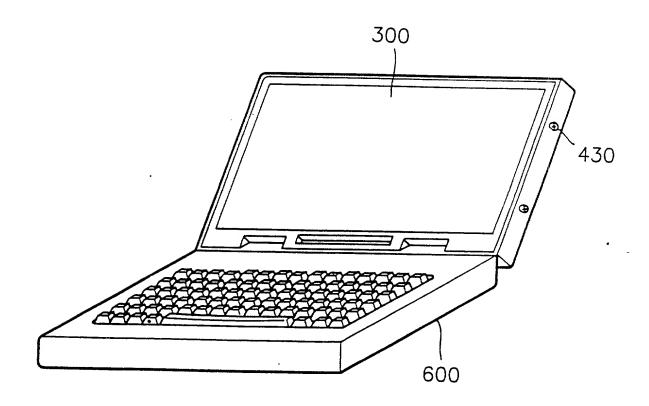


FIG. 9



# COMBINED DECLARATI( \* FOR PATENT APPLICATION \*\* POWER OF ATTORNEY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 043695-5011
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As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address a	and citizenship are as stated below	next to my name,		
I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:				
<u>.</u>				
	COMPUTER HAVING LI	QUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY		
is attached hereto; or				
was filed as United States applicati	ion Serial No. <u>08/888,164</u> on <u>N</u>	JLY 3, 1997 and was amended on	(if applicable); or	
was filed as PCT international applica	lication Number on ble).	and was amended under P	CT Article 19	
The state of the s				
I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.				
I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office information which is material to the patentability of claims presented in this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.				
I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:				
PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §119:				
COUNTRY (if PCT, indicate PCT)	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C ¶119	
KOREA	97-12899	8 APRIL 1997	[X] Yes [ ] No	
KOREA	97-14278	17 APRIL 1997	[X] Yes [ ] No	
[ ]Yes [ ]No				
			[ ] Yes [ ] No	

Page	1	of 4

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internati matter o by the fi Tradema in accord	ional application(s) of of each of the claims irst paragraph of Titl ark Office all inform dance with Title 37,	nder Title 35, United States Codesignating the United States of this application is not discle 35, United States Code, §11 nation known to me to be mate Code of Federal Regulations, national or PCT international	of America that is/are lands in that/those prior is a cknowledge the derial to the patentability, \$1.56 which became a	listed below and, insofar r application(s) in the m duty to disclose to the U y of claims presented in available between the fil	r as the subject nanner provided J.S. Patent and this application
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Morgan Robert J Reid G. Song K. Jeffrey A	n, Lewis & Bockius  J. Gaybrick, Reg. No. 30,9  Adler, Reg. No. 35,2  Jung, Reg. No. 35,2  A. Lindeman, Reg. 1	as a named inventor, I hereby the Patent and Trademark Office LLP  o. 27,890; Richard S. Meyer, 988; J. Michael Thesz, Reg. 1 210; Michele M. Schafer, Reg. 10. 34,658; John D. Zele, Res. 37,028, Michael P. Tierney, 1 210; Michael P. Tierney, 1 210; Michael P. Tierney, 1 220; Michael P. Tier	Reg. No. 32,541; C. S No. 40,354; John G. S eg. No. 34,717; Matthe eg. No. 39,887; Mary J	Scott Talbot, Reg. No. 3 Smith, Reg. No. 33,818; ew T. Bailey, Reg. No.	34,262; ; 33,829;
Send Correspond  Morgan, Lewis				Direct Telephone Ca	
1800 M Street, N Washington, D.C	I.W.			1	J. Gaybrick ) 467-7501

Combined Declaration For P. (includes Reference to PCT I	atent Applicat and Power of Attorney - (Continued) International Applications)  ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:	043695-5011
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FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR	Hee Young YUN	
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	Kumi-shi, Kyungsangbook-do, Korea	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP KOREA
POST OFFICE ADDRESS	102-1108 Doosan Mansion, 20-1 Namtong-dong, Kumi-shi Kyungsangbook-do, KOREA	
FIRST OR SOLE INVENTO	OR'S SIGNATURE	DATE '97. 1.13
FULL NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR	Kyo Hun MOON	
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	Kimcheon-shi, Kyungsangbook-do, KOREA	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP KOREA
POST OFFICE ADDRESS	254 Daeseong 1-li, Apo-eup, Kimcheon-shi Kyungsangbook-do, KOREA	
SECOND INVENTOR'S SI	GNATURE .	DATE '98'././3
FULL NAME OF THIRD INVENTOR	Byeong Yun LEE	
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	Suwon-shi, Kyunggi-do, KOREA	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP KOREA
POST OFFICE ADDRESS	128-208 Chukong Apt., 333 Cheoncheon-dong, Changan-ku Suwon-shi, Kyunggi-do, KOREA	
THIRD INVENTOR'S SIGN	NATURE / Lee Breamer VIII	DATE ·

Listing of Inventors Continued on attached page(s) [x] Yes [] No

Combined Declaration F (includes Reference to P	CT International Arplications)	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	ATTORNEY DOCKET	NO.: 043695-5011
FULL NAME OF FOURTH INVENTOR	Yong Bum KIM	
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	Kumi-shi, Kyungsangbook-do, KOREA	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP KOREA
POST OFFICE ADDRESS	2-1402 Samsung Changmi Apt., 454-2 Songjeong-dong, Kumi-shi, Kyungsangbook-do, KOREA	
FOURTH INVENTOR'S	S SIGNATURE MAN (1/13)	DATE 17, 1, 13
FULL NAME OF FIFTH INVENTOR	Young Un BANG	
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	Ansan-shi, Kyunggi-do, Korea	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP KOREA
POST OFFICE ADDRESS	3-108, Woosung Apt., 872-20, Bonoh-dong, Ansan-shi, Kyunggi-do, Korea	
FIFTH INVENTOR'S S	IGNATURE Young un 13 cmg	DATE 18.1.13
FULL NAME OF SIXTH INVENTOR		
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
POST OFFICE ADDRESS		
SIXTH INVENTOR'S	SIGNATURE	DATE
	•	DATE

isting of Inventors Continued on attached page(s) [ ] Yes [X] No